

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SS-20 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 AGR-20 NIC-01

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /148 W

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R 071505Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1122

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, YO, GW, AU

SUBJ: EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR FOREIGN WORKERS

REF: (A) BELGRADE 0033 (NOTAL)

(B) VIENNA A-371, JUNE 28, 1973

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: CURRENT PROJECTIONS INDICATE THAT AUSTRIA WILL CONTINUE TO EMPLOY APPROXIMATELY SAME NUMBER OF YUGOSLAV AND TURKISH MIGRANT WORKERS AS LAST YEAR. IF GOA'S FULL EMPLOYMENT POLICY SUCCEEDS THERE MAY EVEN BE SLIGHT INCREASE IN MIGRATORY LABOR. ONLY SHARP EASING OF TIGHT LABOR MARKET WHICH IS NOT NOT ANTICIPATED COULD PERSUADE SOME NATIVE UNEMPLOYED TO DISPLACE FOREIGN WORKERS IN OVERWHELMINGLY MENIAL OCCUPATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS ROSE BY 20 PERCENT IN 1973 REACHING APPROXIMATELY 230,000, OF WHICH 78 PERCENT ARE YUGOSLAVS AND 20 PERCENT TURKS. (AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADDITIONAL 20,000 FOREIGN NATIONALS ARE EMPLOYED BY

INTERNATIONAL ENTERPRISES AND HENCE DO NOT FALL INTO "GUEST WORKER" STATUS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ANALYSIS.)

3. ALTHOUGH AUSTRIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (ATUF) FAVORED 20 PERCENT REDUCTION IN FOREIGN WORKER QUOTA FOR 1974 AND ITS PRESIDENT ANTON BENYA DECLARED VERY RECENTLY THAT MIGRATORY WORKERS SHOULD BE FIRST TO BE LAID OFF AND SENT HOME IF UNEMPLOYMENT THREATENED AUSTRIAN ECONOMY, AN UNDERSTANDING WAS REACHED IN DECEMBER BY FEDERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ATUF "TO STABILIZE" MIGRATORY LABOR EMPLOYMENT AT ITS 1973 LEVEL. THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS HAD AGREED UPON TWO QUOTAS TOTALING 210,000 GUEST WORKERS LAST YEAR WITH AN ADDITIONAL 40,000 BEING EMPLOYED UNDER INDIVIDUAL WORK PERMITS. WHILE ATUF OBTAINED C OF C AGREEMENT TO HOLD MIGRATORY WORKER EMPLOYMENT AT PRESENT LEVELS, UNION OFFICIALS SPECULATE PRIVATELY THAT THERE MAY ACTUALLY BE A MODEST INCREASE OUTSIDE THE QUOTA SYSTEM. UNDER CURRENT TIGHT LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS WHERE VACANCIES EXCEED JOB-SEEKERS, EMPLOYERS SIMPLY CANNOT FIND NATIVES TO FILL MENIAL JOBS HELD BY FOREIGN WORKERS. THERE IS BROAD CONSENSUS AMONG MANAGEMENT, LABOR AND GOVERNMENT THAT UNEMPLOYMENT, CURRENTLY LESS THAN 60,000 WOULD HAVE TO RISE SIGNIFICANTLY BEFORE AUSTRIAN WORKERS WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE JOBS NOW HELD BY YUGOSLAVS AND TURKS. GIVEN THE PRIORITY THAT GOA HAS TRADITIONALLY GIVEN TO MAINTENANCE OF FULL EMPLOYMENT AND ITS REITERATIONSICE ENERGY CRISIS HAS ERUPTED, WE DOUBT THAT LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT WOULD REACH SUCH PROPORTIONS IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE WHERE MAJOR CUTBACK IN EMPLOYMENT OF MIGRATORY LABOR WOULD TAKE PLACE.HUMES

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